

THE
Life of Christ
Magnified in His
MINISTER

Or, certain Testimonies thereof, relating
to his faithful Servant,

Giles Barnardiston.

Who departed this Life the 11th day of
the 11th Moneth, 1680.

Which were given forth severally by,

<i>Samuel Cater,</i>	<i>Samuel Waldenfeild,</i>
<i>William Bennet,</i>	<i>Edward Melsupp,</i>
<i>John Furley,</i>	<i>Jacob Baker,</i>
<i>Thomas Bailes,</i>	<i>Benjamin Bangs,</i>
<i>Jonathan Johnson,</i>	<i>William Welch,</i>
<i>John Wilsford,</i>	<i>Elizabeth Gibson,</i>
<i>Thomas Burr,</i>	<i>Hester Melsupp,</i>
<i>John Cornwell,</i>	<i>Mary Gridle,</i>

And *George Whitehead.*

To be dispersed only amongst Friends and Friendly People.

*Phil. 1. 20. Christ shall be magnified in my Body, whether
it be by Life or by Death.*

*Heb. 11. God testifying of his Gifts—he being dead yet speak-
eth—having obtained a good Report through Faith, &c.*

London, Printed for John Brighthurst, Stationer, at the Sign
of the Book in Grace-Church-street near Cornhill, 1681.



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*Several Testimonies by Friends of
Truth concerning that Innocent good
Man and faithful Servant of the Lord
GILES BARNARDISTON, late
of Clair in Suffolk, who finished his
Testimony & departed this Life the
11th Day of the 11th Moneth, 1680.*

*The Memory of the Just, is Blessed; but the Name
of the Wicked shall Rot, Prov. 10. 7.*

*Samuel Cater's Testimony concerning
Giles Barnardiston.*

WHen News was brought to me,
That *Giles Barnardiston* was dead,
my Heart was grieved, and my
Life was smitten, so that my Ex-
ercise was very great that Night, in the considera-
tion of my loss, because he was unto me a very
dear and true Friend, and comfortable Companion
in the Work and Service of the Lord; and since
it pleased the Lord to bring us into acquaintance

one with another, our Hearts were enlarged in true Love and Tenderness one unto another: and having both received a Dispensation of the Grace of God and Word of Life to preach the Truth, and to declare unto others what God had done for our Souls, it was much upon us to Travel together, which we did for the most part for about eight Years, in all which time true and fervent Brotherly Love continued and increased between us one unto another; and while he lived we were a strength and comfort one unto another in the Lord, whereby my parting with him is the harder unto me: but if it was only my want of his comfortable presence (who hath been unto me a comfortable Companion) it might be the easier born; but the want of him in his Place and Service in the Church in those parts where he lived and traveled in the Work and Service of the Lord, is that which maketh our parting with him appear hard; the want that there will be of him, brought me into a great Exercise in the consideration thereof; for he was a good man, very serviceable in his place, and made it his business to serve the Lord and his People, accounting nothing too dear to part withal, nor any thing too hard to do, that tended to the honour of God, and advantage of the Truth, and the praise and well-fare of the Church in general, or to the benefit of any Member in particular, as there are many yet Living can testify the same; whereby it may be truly said of him, *That he did both spend, and was spent for the Gospel sake*: I say, in the consideration, on the one hand

of the good Service he did, and might yet have done (if it had pleased the Lord yet to have continued him amongst us; and on the other hand, the remembrance of the sweet Society and Brotherly Unity we enjoyed together, in our Labours and Travel in the Work of the Lord; for he was of a sweet temper and a Heavenly disposition, and his Words and Carriages at all times and places, where we came, was such as became the Gospel of Christ Jesus, he being of a very low and humble Mind, and of a meek, quiet and peaceable Spirit, so that in his Conversation, as well as in his Doctrine, he preached the Truth, which the Lord had made him a Minister of, so that he shewed forth the Work of Truth; for he was a good Savour in all places where he came: For although he was a Man highly bred, according to the Worlds breeding, and came of a Family of account in the World, and had Education accordingly, and had such parts as the People of the World account highly of, and was well accepted of amongst them, but after he received the knowledge of the Truth of God, by which the Eye of his Understanding came to be opened, he then saw an emptiness in all those things, in the World's Fashions, Customs, Manners and Breeding, as also in that Traditional way of Worship, and was made to leave and turn his Back upon both it and them that continued in such things, and with good Moses of Old, he chose rather to joyn with a poor Suffering People that feared God, *Choosing rather to suffer Affliction with the People of God, then to enjoy the*

Pleasures of Sin for a Season, he having truly in his Eye the blessed *Recompence* that they shall enjoy that suffer *Tribulation* in this World for *Righteousness* sake; into the which Joy and everlasting *Rest* and *Comfort*, according to the *Cleannels* of his *Hands* and *Uprightness* of his *Heart*, I am truly satisfied he is entred, which is that that in the midst of my *Exercise* & *Grief* for parting with him comforts and refreshes my *Heart* and *Soul* concerning him; for this is that which livingly sprung in my *Heart* when I was deeply *Exercised* because the *Lord* hath taken him away, *Why should I be dissatisfied, seeing the Lord hath done it for his good?* for *Blessed is the Dead that dye in the Lord*, for they rest from their *Labour*, and enter into the *Rest* they have laboured for; and now he is entred into his *Rest*, and hath *Ended well*; he hath fought the good *Fight*, and hath overcome, and now a *Crown of Immortal Glory* is his portion for evermore: then I came into a sweet stillness, and my *Heart* was broken before the *Lord*, in the consideration of the great *Happiness* he was now in, that we also shall enjoy, that abide faithful unto the *Lord*; and then a true *Cry* arose in my *Heart* and *Soul* to the *Lord*, *To keep me Faithful unto the End in my Testimony*, both in the *Labour* of the *Gospel*, and in suffering for his *Name* and *Truth* sake, that so when I have finished my *Testimony* in this World, I may be gathered into the *Bosom* of *Everlasting Mercy*, into the which this my dear *Friend* is entred before; then I was made with great quietness to give up this my true and loving *Friend*, with whom

whom I had such sweet Unity while he was living in the Body.

Now as to what he was before he was convinced of the Truth, (as he hath sometimes given me an account) His Parents brought him up at Schools of Learning, and he was about six Years at the University, his Parents that way intending to have made a Minister of him; but he had not freedom in himself to answer their minds in taking that Office upon him in that way, to be made a Minister by the Wills and Power of men; for God let him see in that day that he was unfit for it, although he had outward Learning, whereby he might have been accepted of by men, and was also promised a great Living; yet in those Dayes he seeing a want in himself of that pure and spiritual Divine Wisdom, which the Scriptures testify the Lord indued his Ministers withal, which were truly called of God to that Work, so that as he hath told me, *He had such a Dread and Fear came upon him, looking upon the Work to be too weighty for him in that state he was then in, and that he saw also, that those that were the National Teachers did not walk as became the Ministers of Christ, for the which he accounted they had the more to answer for to God, in taking upon them such an Office, and so little regard to perform what they pretended to, so that his Friends could not perswade him to go to the place that was provided for him, nor he never did, but rather chose to expose himself to their Displeasure, then to do that which was so contrary to his mind.* But after it pleased God to make his holy

Light and Truth known in his Heart, by the which he convinced him of that which was Evil, and by the same converted him unto himself, after which the Lord was pleased to call him into the Work of the Ministry, and committed a Dispensation of the Gospel unto him, and laid a true necessity upon him to declare the same unto the Sons and Daughters of men, which he faithfully performed (after the Lord opened his Mouth) without weariness to the Day of his Death, labouring with all diligence to discharge his Duty therein, as a faithful Steward of the manifold Grace of God, and the Lord was with him, who made him a Blessing in his Hand, and many were turned to God by him, and encouraged to walk in the Way of the Lord. His *Ministry* was very sound and savoury, and the Lord's Power and Presence accompanied him in it, and the sweet Streams of Life (that flowed thorow him) were very Comfortable and Refreshing to them he ministred unto; for his Ministry was truly in the simplicity of the Gospel of Jesus, without any mixture of those parts which he had, as he had been bred a Scholar, and did alwayes account that outward Learning with all Transitory things but Dross, in comparison of the true Gift and Grace of God by the which he was made a Minister, and through which the Lord had laid a necessity upon him freely to declare Truth unto others, which the Lord in his free Mercy and Goodness had freely made known unto him, which he truly performed, not regarding his own weakness of Body so much

much as to mind to fulfill the Will of God, that he might clear his Conscience, and keep his Peace with God, and be serviceable unto People, as he hath often said when we have been together in any hard Journey, or otherwise exercised, whereby our Exercise seemed hard unto us, *This is but for a short time, and we shall have done in this World, and I desire I may be found faithful unto the End, that I may enjoy that at the Hand of the Lord that I received the Truth for; for if it had not been to obtain Peace of Conscience whilst I am in this World, and Hopes of Everlasting Rest with God in the World to come, I would never have left the Glory and Pleasures of this World, which I had and might have had a share of with them that are in it; neither would I now leave my House and Home, where I have a loving Wife, with all that a Man fearing God needs to desire, if it was not to obey the Lord, and make known his blessed Truth unto others, that so they may come to be saved; for this cause do I forsake Father and Mother, Wife and Estate, and who ever thinks otherwise of me, with the rest of my faithful Brethren, whom God hath called into his Work to declare his Name and Truth amongst the Sons of men, they are all mistaken of us, and I would they knew us better.*

He had a very large Esteem and true respect to all labouring Friends, who abode faithful, and in particular unto antient and elder Brethren, who were in Christ before him, and had been serviceable unto him upon his Convincement, and a strength unto him in time of Weakness; and he hath often expressed

expressed his Grief to see how ungrateful some were, to undervalue the Testimonies and Service of such as had been Fathers in Christ to beget them to the knowledge of the Truth, and to build them up therein, while they were young and tender; of them he would always say, *That the Lord would judge them for it.*

He had true unity with the good Order that the Truth hath brought us into, in the keeping Men and Womens Meetings to take care of Truth's concerns, and encouraged all where-ever he came, that were honest Friends, to be diligent in keeping of them; and where he met with any that had got up any thing in their Minds, through adhering to them that have a slighty esteem of the good Order, and would let all loose, under a pretence of *leaving all to their freedom and liberty, while they are in bondage to that Spirit that is sloathful, negligent and unfaithful*; and such would hinder the blessed Fruits of Righteousness, Love and of Mercy, to be brought forth amongst us; for these Meetings are set up for that end, that all things that concern our blessed Testimony may be done, and carryed on in the tender Life and Love of God amongst the women as well as the men, they being Members of the Body of Christ, as well as the men. I say, where he met with any that were thus hurt, he would in great love and tenderness speak to them, and labour with them for their Recovery out of the Snare that the Enemy laid for them, thereby to hinder them from being serviceable in their day and time.

Dear

Dear Giles! there is much might be said of him, for he was a good man, and lived in the Truth, which he preached, and his words and carriage favoured of the same. There was a true and fervent Love in our hearts one unto another; while we travelled together we were a comfort one unto another, which made us much desire to be together, until the Enemies of Truth cast me into Prison for my Testimony, after which he came several times to visit me, and writ me several good Letters, whereby he manifested his true Love and tender Respects, which neither Prisons nor Stone Walls could hinder the flowing of to one another. In which pure Life and Love of God I do truly hope and faithfully believe our Souls shall live together with God in the enjoyment thereof, World without End; in which hope I desire to rest contented in the will of the Lord our God, waiting till my change shall come.

Ely-Prison, where I am a Sufferer for my obedience to the Truth, this 11th Moneth, 1680.

Samuel Cater.

William Bennet's Testimony concerning Giles Barnardiston.

THis is my Testimony concerning our faithful Friend and dear Brother in the Lord: Dear Giles Barnardiston, whom my Soul dearly loved in the Truth, when he was living with us; and now he is gone from us, the remembrance of him

is as a sweet savour of Spices and Perfumes within me; Experience, in time, will tell us how great our Loss (of him) is; but our great Loss is his great Gain, who (through many Travels, Troubles, and deep Exercises) hath attained unto the eternal Rest, prepared for the faithfull. I knew him well, and had inward acquaintance with him, having travelled together many Hundreds of Miles in visiting the Churches of Christ. God had made him very serviceable in his work, in divers respects, and Instrumental in his hand, for the convincing many of the blessed Truth, and Way of Life, and for the confirming, strengthening and comforting of others therein, and building them up in their most holy Faith; there be many that be Witnesses of the Truth hereof, who are as Seals of his Ministry, unto whom the remembrance of him is dear and precious, upon whose Souls his Doctrine many times dropped like the small Rain, and his Speech distilled as the pleasant Dew, and the Heritage of God was sweetly refreshed by the Showers of the celestial Rain of Heaven, through him. He was a man of a meek, humble, peaceable tender Spirit, and sought the glory of God, and the good of Souls, in all he did: Self was baptized into the Death, and made of no Reputation to him; he greatly loved and honoured his elder Brethren in the Lord, and was willing to serve the meanest and poorest among the Flock of God. He greatly loved and sought for Love, Peace and Unity amongst Brethren; and *that Spirit which would divide and sow Discord, and beget Divisions, and lead*
into

into a self-Separation, he was utterly against; He loved good Order and Government in the whole Family and Household of Faith, that thereby things might be kept sweet and savoury among all who professed the Truth, both in the general and particular. How often in his Ministry did he in effect exhort Masters and Dames of Families to endeavour to suppress all Vice and Evil, and to nourish Piety and Truth in their Families; and that Parents should be a good Example in words and deeds to their Children, and discharge their Duty in bringing them up in the fear of the Lord, restraining them from Evil (Oh! that all Parents would be careful in that matter, not only to reprove, but as much as in them lies, to restrain their Children from evil unsavoury Words, foolish Talking, and all corrupt Communication and Conversation, that tends to their hurt.) He was a man who bore Love and good Will to all Mankind, and would often in his Prayers to God remember the Land of his Nativity, Supplicating the Lord, on the behalf of this Nation, desiring, *That the Judgments, Sickneses and Afflictions, which have been upon it, & still threaten it might be as a means to awaken the Inhabitants thereof unto Righteousness, that by true Repentance they might break off from all Iniquity, and be brought nearer unto God.* Oh England! divers precious Servants of the Lord, who have stood in the Gap, and prayed for thy good, are of late years taken from thee, who hast often had Repentance sounded in thy Ears, and the Way of Holiness preached unto thee, nevertheless too too many

many of thy Inhabitants yet continue in the Way of Unholiness, in Swearing, Lying, Drunkenness and Uncleanness, taking pleasure in vain Shews and Stage-plays, Christmas Games and Harvest Songs, and many Evils more, which grieve the Spirit of the Lord from day to day, and the Righteous Soul of this Innocent Man. This faithful Servant of the Lord hath run his Race, and finished his Course, and kept the Faith of our Lord Jesus Christ to the end; and a Testimony of his Meekness, Innocency and Integrity towards God and Man, remains in the Consciences of many.

Dear *Giles*, he is gone, he is got before us, he is ceased from his Labours, and is taken away from the Evil to come, and is at Rest in the Lord his God for evermore; and the Fruits and Works of his Meek, Humble, Self-denying Life & Conversation shall praise him in the Gate of *Sion*, the City of the Saints Solemnity, which he so dearly loved, because God the Lord delighteth in her, and hath chosen her for his Dwelling-place.

Written the 26th of
the 11th Moneth,
1680.

William Bennet.

John Furly's Testimony concerning Giles Barnardiston.

SO many are like to be the living Testimonies that will be given by several Fathers, Elders and Friends in the Church of God, that were in Christ before me, concerning our dear Friend
Giles

Giles Barnardiston, deceased, that there may be little need of, or room for mine; for as it was questioned in days past, *What shall the man say that cometh after the King?* so may some demand of me, *What canst thou write or say of Giles Barnardiston, which others have not hit of, and fully hinted?* Nevertheless, considering the Acceptation that the Widows Mite, (cast (out of Love and good Will) into the Lords Treasury) met with in dayes past, and in Generations that are gone, encourages me to write something of this good man, besides the endearedness of Affection that was betwixt us, having (since he was convinced of God's blessed Truth) travelled with him into forreign Parts, in company with *Thomas Green* (by which I had the larger Experience of his temper and spirit) obliges me hereunto.

As to his manly Part he was naturally Affable, Courteous, Gentle and Lovely, being well descended by Parents on both sides; he had the Education of **Worldly Learning**, skilfull in Martial Affairs; but his more noble Part, for which my Soul loved him, unto which I desire to bear my Testimony, is unto his *Uprightness, Wisdom, Patience and Sincerity*; he feared God and eschewed Evil. Its true, he was once in the Vanity of his Mind, and a fighting man, but seeing such a **Deluge of Wick- edness**, like a mighty Torrent come and coming into the Nation (in behalf of which he never took up Arms at first) it grieved his Righteous Soul, so that he layes down his Commission, comes to *Wormingford-Lodge in Essex*, applies his heart to
Wisdom

Wisdom (of which *Solomon* in his day testified, *was better than Weapons of War*) betakes himself to a more strict, sober and private Life, than formerly, which had much consisted in worldly Pleasures and Delights (which many of the Sons of men call *Pastime* and *Recreation*) in the midst of which, I have oft heard him say, *He had no true Content nor Satisfaction, for a Sting was in the Tail of the best of them, and Bitterness their latter end*; and how that in the midst of his *Mirth, Sports and Jollity*, his Heart was oft made sad; *Rest and Peace with the Lord* he had not, neither going out nor coming in, lying down nor up-rising; but when he was alone, and his Mind was inwardly retired to the Lord, the breathing desire of his Soul was, that he would lift up the Light of his Countenance upon him, shew him the Path of Life, and lead him in the Way which was Everlasting (for he was sensible the Way in which he had walked, led to the Chambers of Death, and his steps took hold of Hell) making oft times Resolutions in his Heart, could he but find out that Path, and meet with that People who were seeking the Lord with their whole Heart, he would diligently seek with them; for he saw thorow and over all Out-side Professions and Professors. And being inclined to try and search into the Principles of the People of the Lord called *Quakers*, about 1661. he in some short time after invited some of them to his House, and it happened that *George Fox junior*, was then at *Colchester*, who taking *George Wetherly* with him, had freedom to ride to visit him, whom espying, he invited him into his House, where

George

George discoursing him about the Principles of Truth, How that Christ Jesus, the Light of the World, who had tasted Death for every Man, had also out of his Universal Love to all mankind lighted them, to the end that none should Perish and abide in Darkness, but (through believing in him and following of him) might have the Light of Life, and so come to the knowledge of the Truth and be saved; And also, how that for men to despise and refuse this inshining Light of Christ Jesus in their Hearts and Consciences, was to reject their own Mercy, chuse their own Delusions, and neglect their own Salvation, nay, to reject Christ Jesus himself, who (according to his gracious Words at his departure, promised, that He that's WITH you shall be IN you) in tender Mercy, and in good Will to the Sons and Daughters of men was come nigh to visit them, to preserve their Eyes from Tears, their Feet from falling, and their Souls from Death; by which tender the Lord is clear from all mens Blood, and their Destruction is of themselves: This being the Condemnation that Light is come into the World, but men love Darkness rather than Light, because their Deeds are Evil, and the Light of Christ Jesus judging, reprovng, detecting, convincing, arraigning them for Sin and Evil, they besome Enemies thereunto (as the Apostle testified) through wicked Works. To this purpose he spoke; all which so well suiting, not only with the Testimony of Scriptures, but also with G. B. his own large and long Experience (against which no Argument ought to prevail) that he imbraced it for

a Truth; for he well knew from a Child's state, that he was inwardly reprov'd for his Transgression, though acted or spoken never so secretly, and that the Lord had long waited upon him to be Gracious, and oft knockt at the Door of his Heart; but his Unhappiness lay here, he wot not that it was the Lord: and its also the Unhappiness at this day of Thousands and ten Thousands, (*the Leaders of the People cause them to Err, telling them, its but a Carnal, Natural, Insufficient Light; nay, some have been so wicked as to call it a Diabolical Light*) and so men slight this inward appearance of the Lord, though he testifies, and saith, *Behold, I stand at the Door, and knock*: Oh! did but men consider, that it is the Lord, *they would not let him stand, until his Head was wet with Dew, and his Locks with the drops of the Night*, but would let him into their Hearts, and Houses, as this good man did, who upon this Conference and Conviction, clos'd with this unerring Principle, was bow'd before the Lord, and laying aside all Superfluity of Naughtiness, consulted not with Flesh and Blood (which might have jeopard'd his progress in the Truth, and his Peace with the Lord) but received with meekness the ingrafted Word, and believed, that is was of ability to save his Soul: soon after he took up the daily Cross to his former Lovers, Companions and Practices, and frequented the Meetings of the Lord's People, entertaining his faithful Servants and Messengers at his House, loving such dearly (accounting their
very

very Feet beautiful that brought Glad Tidings of Peace, that could say unto *Zion*, *Thy King Reigneth*: He became a Companion to them that feared the Lord, and despised them not, though of never so low degree; he was soon helpful and careful in ordering Affairs in the Church of the Living God; and which is of remark, he Espoused the said People and Persuasion, and contemned the Preferments of this World (by which his former Glory was laid in the Dust, and the hope of his Friends and Relations (that expected his Advancement) wholly extinct and laid waste) in a time of great Danger and Exercise, when Truth had few Followers, and but few Advocates, when Truth was not only fallen in the Streets, and Equity could not enter, (and yet a Prophet of the Lord lamented that time, as being a doleful Day indeed) but when Truth was Persecuted in the Streets: For in the time of that great Persecution at *Colchester*, Anno 1663. and part of 1664. when two Troops, or part of two Troops mounted on Horse-back, with drawn Swords, Pistols cockt, came twice a Week, first and fourth dayes to dissipate and scatter the Servants of the Lord, who were peaceably met together to wait upon the Lord in the Street, as near to their Meeting House (out of which they were by force kept) as they could, he met constantly with them, though neither he nor they knew but that they might have been slain upon the spot, and never been permitted more to return unto their own Habitations: hs at this time, I say, imitating meek

Moses, Chose rather to suffer Affliction with the People of God, than to enjoy the Pleasures of Sin for a season, accounting the Reproach of Christ greater Riches then the Treasures of Egypt: he never turned back in that Evil day, and of weak was made so strong, that he overcame his Persecutors with so much candor and sweetness, and with such a meek and quiet Spirit, that many of them afterwards loved him, whereby that promise was verified, When a man's Wayes please God, his Enemies shall be at Peace with him. Some Years after the Lord opened his Mouth, and made him an able Minister, not of the Letter, but of the Spirit; gave him boldness and utterance, which his Enemies were not able to resist; a large Gift he had in Prayer also: many Hearts were reached and tendred by his Ministry, of which there are several seal'd in divers places; he had truly the Tongue of the Learned; he knew how to speak a Word to him or her that was weary and heavy-laden, and from his own Experience could shew them where true Rest and Peace for their Immortal Souls was to be found; which put me in mind of the Sons of Benjamin, of whom in Holy Writ its Recorded, they were so dextrous, that they could throw a Stone to an Hairs breadth; So this Servant of the Lord would speak most pithily and pertinently to the several States and Conditions of men with whom he had to do, sometimes thundering out of Judgments to Esau's Seed, the Habitation of Wickedness; and at other times (as the subject required) speak comfortably to

Worm

Worm Jacob, binding up that which was bruised, and strengthening the weak hands, and confirming the feeble knees, and comforting such as were dejected with the same Comforts that he (in the day of his deep Exercises) was comforted of God: His Bow abode in strength to the last; he gave up himself to spend and be spent in the Lords Service, travelling for the Souls of many, that Christ might be formed in them. To do the Will of God, and be found in his Work, was his delight; and after many Exercises, Travels, Troubles and Tryals, he was gathered into the Bosom of the Lord, (where the Wicked cease from Troubling, and the Weary be at Rest) being Aged about Fifty Six Years; at which great Loss (which is his great Gain) let none Murmur or Repine, nor yet Despair, for the Head and Fountain of Life lives forever, who filleth every Vessel according to its Capacity, & he can fit and furnish other Instruments as pleaseth him; but let us all wait upon the Lord for the feeling of that Virtuous Power of an Endless Life, that furnished him with heavenly Supplies day after day, and submit to his heavenly Will in all things, and that with all readiness of mind.

I have only a few words more, and commend this Testimony to the Consciences of such faithful Servants of the Lord as knew him; He was a Man of a Thousand, a Son of the Morning, a Star of great Brightness, lighting many in their Travel through *Egypt's* Land into heavenly *Canaan*, a

Pillar in the House of God, and one of the Vali-
ants in Israel.

Colchester, the 27th of }
the 11th Mon. 1680. }

John Furlly, senior.

Thomas Bayle's Testimony concerning Giles Barnardiston.

OH! my dear Brother, *Giles Barnardiston*, is taken from hence, and I could Weep with great Sorrow and Heaviness of Heart, but that for that weight of Glory, and Crown of eternal Life, which my Soul is satisfied, beyond all doubtfulness, he is passed into, to remain with the Lord forever; therefore there is cause of Rejoycing and holy Thanks-giving unto the Lord our God, for his Mercy and Goodness extended unto him, and all that seek his face with a sincere and humble Heart.

When first he was convinced of the precious Truth, and illuminated in his Understandings to see of the corrupted State and Condition (in his Conversation in the World) he consulted not with flesh and blood (which soon strove against him both within and without) but gladly parted with his Vanities, unprofitable Companions and Pleasures, and submitted his Neck to the Yoke of Christ Jesus, and became a Companion with those who were engaged in their Minds to take up the daily Cross, and to follow him who said, *Learn of me, I am Meek,*

Meek and Lowly in Heart. And thus in Love and Contentment to it and them, he grew in a short time a good Example and Pattern in Self-denial and Humility, in which he went on and prospered, serving the Lord and his People, ready to be doing good to all, as he had opportunity.

He was a diligent man in frequenting Meetings to wait upon the Lord, neglecting no Times or Seasons, although oft-times he met with great exercise, by reason of that opposition which was by men of evil Will unto us and our Meetings, especially at that time, when a Troop of cruel-hearted men were sent to this Town to satisfy the Malicious Hearts and Minds of some, whom Envy had filled against us; but he started not aside, but was a strength to some, who then were weak, and abode in his Tent, waiting to see what end the Lord would make for us; which end was good, and his holy Name be praised therefore.

After he had been thus exercised here, and in other places some time, the Lord was pleased to fit and authorize him to labour in the Work of the Gospel of Salvation, where he went on with diligence and faithfulness, so that the Lord blessed him, and many there are living Men and Women, who partook of his blessedness, which he communicated freely, as the Lord had bestowed, seeking nothing for himself, but that in all things he might have his Conscience void of Offence in the sight of the Lord; and that this heavenly Work, which the Lord hath begun in this age, might be carried on & prosper'd in the Earth, until it should be filled with the Knowledge

ledge of the Lord, as the Waters fill the Sea. Thus he went on, and by his upright and innocent Conversation gained upon many, and stopped the Mouthes of some Enemies, who had been as roaring Lyons to the Prey, and attained unto a good measure in the stature and knowledge of Jesus Christ, untill the Lord (according to his own divine Will and Pleasure) finished his Course, put an end to his Labour and Travel, receiving him into the Bosom of Glory, to rest with him forever.

Colchester, the 24th of
the 11th Moneth,
1680. }

Thomas Bayles.

Jonathan Johnson's Testimony concerning Giles Barnardiston.

A Living Testimony springs in my Soul to bear in the behalf of this my dear Friend, and faithful Servant of the Lord, *Giles Barnardiston*, whom the Lord raised up in the Word of Life, to bear Testimony of his Everlasting day, that hath gloriously broken forth in this our Age and Generation; yea, the Day that never shall be dark again; though Clouds of Darkness may seem to appear to come over all again, yet the Lords Purpose and Determination shall be brought to pass; and this day he boldly declared of in the Name and Power of the Lord, which made him as one of the Valiants of *Israel*; for the Lord did pour forth of his

his Spirit upon him, and the Lord gave him the Sword of the Spirit, and he divided the Word aright; for his Ministry was as a Spring of Life unto all them that truly loved the Lord; but his Ministry was dreadful unto them that held the Truth in Unrighteousness; for he loved Truth and Righteousness with all his heart. And thus the Lord honoured him with his everlasting Name, which he gave him to bear upon the Earth, which Name was unto him as precious Ointment poured forth upon him; and the Lord magnified himself in him, and it was to the joy and comfort of my Soul, with the Souls of many more; but now he is taken from us, and is gathered into the Bosom of the Father's Love. But O! what shall I say concerning thee? *Did thy Life go out as the Light of a Candle?* O! nay, *thou hast penetrated the Hearts of many; thy Memorial shall live forever, and be had in remembrance amongst the Children of men; for thou hast turned many to Righteousness, and shalt shine as a Star in the Firmament of Gods Power forever.* But, O what shall I say for thee, dear Giles! for the want of thee is great, O my Friend! for thou hast been as a loving and tender Father unto me: Oh! I cannot but Mourn for the want of thee both night and day, for thy presence was unto me very comfortable; but O! what shall I say? for now I want thy Imbraces, & the years to come shall know the want of thee, because the Lord did make thee a valiant Souldier; and thou wert expert in handling the Weapon which the Lord put into thy hand: Oh! what may I say for this my dear Friend!

26 Jonathan Johnson's Testimony, &c.

Friend! for the Lord was with him mightily, and gave unto him the Shield of Faith, and the Breastplate of Righteousness, and his Feet were shod with the preparation of the Gospel, and he went forth in the Name of the Lord, and turned many from Darkness to Light, and from Satans Power unto God's Everlasting Power; for he was a faithful Minister of the Lord; for his Life, and all that he had was given up to serve the Lord and his Truth; for his care and labour was great among the Churches, *That all things might be established according to the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.* And thus he walked amongst us as a Pattern, and a good Example in all Humility and Lowliness of Mind before the Lord; and now his Reward is with the Lord, and hath an Inheritance among all them that are Sanctified, which is far better than earthly Houses; *for he sought a House not built with hands, but Eternal in the Heavens,* and rests in the Bosom of the Fathers Love. O thou Servant of the Lord! thou shalt forever be recorded in the Lambs Book of Life amongst the Lords Worthies, who have followed the Lamb, and at last have Overcome, and are found worthy to stand with the Lamb upon *Mount Sion*, the Hill of God, and have obtained the Crown of Immortal Glory, World without End; *Amen.*

Jonathan Johnson.

John

John Wilsford's Testimony concerning his dear Friend Giles Barnardiston.

Dear Friends ;

I Have this to say concerning our dear and well-beloved Friend, *Giles Barnardiston*, who is lately deceased, That he was an Innocent man, and without Guile, clear and sound in his Judgment concerning the things of God's Truth, and faithful in the place which God had set him in, alwayes labouring to the utmost of his Power to do good in his day. I cannot express in words the care that I have felt upon him for all People, but more especially for the *Church of God*, that all might be kept sweet and clean in the heavenly Order of the Gospel of Peace ; and the Lord had endued him with an excellent Spirit and Wisdom, and discerning of Spirits ; and he was much grieved when any thing was done or said by any professing Truth that was not consisting with the Truth ; and when any was careless, or slighted the Way and good Order of Truth, often saying, *They hindred the Prosperity of Truth greatly* ; and he was of a meek Spirit, and alwayes willing to condescend to the least appearance of good in the least Child, and ready to prefer another's Testimony that was in the Truth, so far was he from *Lording of it over his Brethren* ; yet he was zealous against Evil, and was wholly given up to serve the

the Lord and his People withal his Might, and ready to do good, where he saw a need, with his outward Substance. He will be greatly missed in several Respects; We have had sweet fellowship together in our Travels, upon the Service of Truth, several times, and in a late Journey we had for the space of about six Weeks together in *Norfolk, Suffolk, some part of Essex and Cambridgeshire, and the Isle of Ely*, of which my heart is glad in the Lord, for we had a precious time together; I desire I may not forget the sweet Unity, and the comfortable and fruitful Seasons we had in that Journey, in which our Souls were refreshed in the Lord, and with his Children, where we came; and in most or every Meeting we had in that Journey, this Testimony ran through that faithful Servant of the Lord, and Minister of the Gospel, *That the Lord looked for Fruits from his People, to whom he had so largely manifested himself, as to make known his precious Truth unto them: And very Powerfully he exhorted and warned Fathers and Mothers to be good Examples to their Children, and not to countenance them in the least appearance of Evil, nor in the Worlds vain Fashions or Customs, Manners or Language; but to bring them up in the fear of God, and to teach them such Manners as became Truth, which is good Words and civil Behaviour towards all People, & to keep in their places in the Authority of God; And that Children should obey their Parents in the Lord, and not to answer again when they were reprov'd: And the like Testimony ran through him concerning Masters and Mistresses*

ses or Dames, and Servants, That they should all know their places, and keep in them one towards another, being good Examples in their respective places, that the Truth might not be blamed, but adorned by all that professed it; often mentioning that Passage concerning Abraham, Gen. 18. where the Lord said, *Shall I hide from Abraham that which I do? seeing he shall surely become a great Nation, and all the Nations of the Earth shall be blessed in him; for I know him, that he will command his Children and his Household after him, that they shall keep the Way of the Lord, to do Justice and Judgment, that the Lord may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.* He did often and very powerfully exhort and warn Friends, and it lay as a weight upon him to put them in mind, *To keep Justice and Judgment upon the head of the Transgressor, both in the particular and general; For (said he) those are the People whom the Lord will make great, and they shall be a blessing in his hand to the Nations.*

Dear Friends, Much might be said of the faithful Testimonies, that this faithful Servant of the Lord and his People hath born, who was willing to serve the least Child in the Truth, and to take the weakest by the hand, if he felt an Honesty in their Hearts to God. But he is entered into Everlasting Rest, and wraped up in the heavenly Life; he has done his Work, and his Reward is Peace for evermore, out of the reach of the Devourer; and his godly Conversation, meek Behaviour and refreshing Strength of Life (which often filled

filled his chosen Vessel, and flowed forth in an abundant manner, to the Consolation of the flock of God, where he came, and to the reaching of the Witness in those that were without, to the convincing of several who were strangers to the Truth) speak for him, and sealed with the heavenly Signet of God's pure Spirit, in the innermost Parts of all who rightly and truly knew him in the Life in which he lived to God, that he was a Minister of Christ, and a Serviceable man in his Day, and his Life speaketh now his Body is dead.

And therefore I shall conclude with a short Exhortation to Friends in *Suffolk*, and those Parts where this faithful Minister travelled most.

Dear Friends, All mind the pure fear of the Lord, that ye may do the Work of your Day faithfully, that so ye may lay down your heads in Peace and have no Guilt upon your Consciences, for any slackness or carelessness in the Work of the Lord, in neglecting your several Services in your respective Places, for God, his Truth and People, but be diligent to keep to all your Meetings upon the Service of Truth, and wait to be ordered in God's Wisdom, which is pure and peaceable, and easie to be entreated to every good Work. And all take heed of a singular Self-separating Spirit; that Spirit which divideth from the Body (whereof Christ Jesus is the Head) divideth from the Head also, and such will be scattered (in the Day that's coming) as Chaff before the Wind. Therefore all wait to feel the Spirit of Truth, that leadeth

leadeth into all Truth, that none may fall short, as some of *Israel* did in days of old, notwithstanding they had known a mighty Deliverance, who murmured against *Moses*, and withstood the Law, and so perished in the gain-saying; but, dear Friends, mind the Spirit of Truth, which is but one in all, and so leadeth into Oneness, true Unity and heavenly Fellowship in the Light of the Lord, where your Bread and Water will be sure, and so ye will be comforted in the Lord, and one in another, and then the Labours, Travels, Drift and Tendency of the Spirit of him that the Lord hath taken away, will be brought to your remembrance; and as ye truly and faithfully give up yourselves to serve the Lord in your Day, the Spirit that dwelt in him, that's gone to his Rest, will fill your Hearts; and as ye give up to the leadings of it, the Work of the Lord will be carryed on in and amongst you, and so your Loss may be made up again; which is the earnest desire of my heart to the Lord, who am

Written, the 3d day
of the 12th Month,
1680.

Your real and true Friend,

John Wilsford.

Thomas Burr's Testimony concerning
Giles Barnardiston.

HE was a Man of God, a Man that was regenerated and born again by the pure Word
of

of God (which lives and abides forever;) he was *Created a new in Christ Jesus, unto good Works;* He had put off the Old Man with his Deeds, and put on the New Man with his Deeds, which after God is created in Holiness and Righteousness; and having put on the New Man, he bore the Image of the heavenly Life; and his whole Conversation, both Words and Works, were stamped with the heavenly Stamp; this is my Testimony from a certain knowledge. He was a Self-denying Man, and was weaned from the Breast of this World (I am satisfied) and the Pleasures, Profits, Reputations, Honour; yea, I am perswaded from all that is in this World, viz. the Lust of the Eye, the Lust of the Flesh, and the Pride of Life, and so was in a meet state for the Lord to teach the Knowledge of himself; and indeed he had received the knowledge of the most Holy, and of his everlasting, precious, divine Power, with which he was indued with a large measure from on High, by which he was purely sanctified, and purged, and made a Vessel meet for our Masters use; and our Lord and Master did make use of him, and put him into his Service, and made him an *able Minister of the New Testament, not of the Letter, but of the blessed Spirit*, of which he had received a plentiful Measure, and was a just Steward, and faithful over the manifold Grace of God, and laboured Night and Day to turn many to Righteousness, and to build up them (that were turned) in the most holy Faith, and therefore did and doth shine as a fixed Star in the Firmament of the Lords Power;

Power; for he was a certain true Labourer in the Lords Vineyard, and was willing to spend and to be spent for Sion's sake, and for Jerusalem's sake, he could not hold his Peace; and his endeavours were (I am well assured) that her Righteousness might go forth as the Morning, and her Brightness as the Noon-day; and I know it was a rejoycing to his Heart and Soul to see the Peace, Unity, Heavenly Concord, and Prosperity of Sion; and on the contrary, when he saw any thing appear in any particular, that tended to Eclipse Sions Beauty and Glory, his heart was sadned. Oh! I know he loved the Brotherhood, and rejoyced in those things that made for Peace, and was a preserver of them; I have known him many Years, and am perswaded I knew him well, and delighted in his Company; I never knew any thing come from him which made me sad; for in truth my Soul was knit to him, as the Soul of Jonathan and David; and oh! methinks I feel a great want of him, and am sensible of the loss which the Church hath by his Departure, but I am also sensible that his Dissolution is gain to him, and so I must be subject and content in the blessed will of our God: But if devoute men made great Lamentation when carrying Stephen (who was full of the holy Ghost) to his Burial; surely I may say, in subjection to the Lords will, this is a matter of no little Lamentation to me, with many others; Oh! I would not be found to magnifie man, or any thing of man, but the Lords precious Power alone, in which he lived, and walked, and spake many a time, to the
C strengthening

strengthening and watering of the Flock of God as a holy Instrument in his hand. But I remember what the People said, *when Christ came to the place where Lazarus lay, when he groaned in his Spirit and Jesus Wept*, this made them to say, *Behold how he loved him*; And truly, I must confess, it is hard for me to write or think of him, but my Spirit is ready to be dissolved, and to occasion Tears from my Eyes, in the sense of that Heart-melting Love, in which he lived, in which Love we have a feeling of his holy Life and Spirit though absent in Body. Oh! Glory and everlasting Praise and endless Renown be to our God forever; *Amen.*

Thomas Burr.

John Cornwell's Testimony concerning Giles Barnardiston.

MAny have been the Ministers that the Lord God hath raised up in this our Age and Generation, to declare his Love in Christ Jesus to this Generation, so that they might be turned from the Evil of their ways, and obey the Light of Christ in their Consciences, to the Salvation of their Souls; amongst the rest of his faithful Servants, was this our dear Friend *Giles Barnardiston*, when it pleased the Lord to reach unto him through his Servants, he despised the Poms and Glory of this World, and obeyed the Light of Christ

Christ Jesus, and was faithful in many Tryals and Tribulations, in which the Lord carried him through. And in the Year 1669. he came to inhabit in *Clair* (the place of his outward Birth) where the Lord raised strong Cryes and great Desires in him, *That he would raise up a People in that place; as I have heard him say, O! that it might be said unto a People, that were not the Lords People, they are the Servants of the living God!* And it pleased the Lord to hear the Cryes of his Servant; and the Lord did lay it upon me to come to that place to inhabit (and although it was said by our Enemies, *That the aforesaid Giles Barnardiston brought me thither*, yet I can say in the presence of the Lord, *He did not speak to me of it, until I did declare unto him what was in my Heart, as to my coming; & then he was glad that the Lord had put it into my heart; and although we did see that it was like to bring great Sufferings upon us, yet we were willing to give up to the Will of the Lord, as knowing, that he which had called us thereto, was able to carry us through, as (blessed be his Name) he hath done, and caused our Enemies to be at peace with us; for which I have often heard his Servant Giles Barnardiston praise and magnifie the Name of the Lord in a remembrance thereof; for indeed the Lord was mightily with us, and did enlarge the Heart of this our dear Friend, and at that time opened his Mouth to declare his Everlasting Gospel, and made him an Instrument in his hand to turn many from Darkness to Light, and from the Power of Satan to the Power of God,*

36 John Cornwell's Testimony, &c.

and did let him remain amongst us to see many of his Children in the Faith of Christ, some of which the Lord hath opened their Mouthes to declare his Everlasting Gospel; so that although the Lord gave him no Children, as to the outward, yet as in the spiritual Relation, he gave him many, both Sons and Daughters, to the great rejoycing of him whilst he remained amongst us; for as he was truly given up in the Service of the Lord, both Day and Night, so was the Lord mightily with him to uphold him, that he never turned his Back, but was a Conqueror in *Israel*, and shall be recorded as one that obtained a part in Christ Jesus, the Resurrection and Life; but much need not be said of his noble Acts, for there are Thousands which still remain, who are Witnesses of the same; for he greatly travelled for Peace and Unity amongst Brethren, and had a Testimony against that Spirit which would sow Divisions amongst Brethren. And so it pleased the Lord after all his Tryals and Exercises, to visit him with Sickness, in which he said, *The Lord was his Portion, and he was freely given up to dye, which was Gain to him*, although to us Loss, who still remain; for he was a comfort to us whilst he was with us; but now he is gone into everlasting Rest with the Lord.

So, I being much conversant with him in his Life, and was with him at his Departure, I could not but give this my Testimony, *That he departed (the 11th of the 11th Moneth, 1680.) in Peace, and lives for evermore.*

The 16th of the 11th }
Moneth, 1680. }

John Cornwell

Samuel Waldenfeild's Testimony concerning Giles Barnardiston.

THe Memorial of *Giles Barnardiston* continues and still lives, although he departed this life the 11th Day of the 11th Moneth, 1680.

He was a faithful Servant of the Lord, and a noble Instrument in his hand, for the turning of many unto Righteousness; yea, a Valiant in *Israel*; and the Lord was mightily with him in his Day and Time; but now he is removed out of this World of Trouble, and the Lord hath taken him from the Evil that is to come, and given unto him the Crown of Immortal Life to enjoy forever.

What shall we say for thee? O dear *Giles*! We cannot forget thee, nor that Life and holy Power which attended thee, by which the Lord made thee Instrumental unto many, to turn them unto the Truth, and the everlasting Way of Gods Salvation; but now many Mourn because of thy Departure, and because of the want of thee.

Oh! thou Servant of the living God! thou wert as a Father in *Israel*! surely thou art entred into Rest, and Peace with the Lord now is thy Portion.

But now, in the consideration of our loss and want of thee, we Mourn, though thou art fixed in an everlasting Kingdom, and Being with the Lord forever.

Shall I tell to the World and to the Generations to come of thy noble Acts, and thy valiant Doings? for thou hast done blessedly through the Lords Power, which did accompany thee in thy Travels and Journies, when thou preachedst the everlasting Gospel of glad Tidings, and published the Day of God's Visitation unto the Sons and Daughters of men.

Oh! how many were deeply affected and turned unto the Lord, through thy Ministry! for so the Lord prospered thy Labours in the Gospel amongst us, where thy Lot was cast; and it will be known that thy Memorial is not to be forgotten.

This worthy Servant of the Lord, and Messenger, whom the Lord raised up unto this Generation, I may say, the Lord visited him by his blessed Power, and redeemed him from the Vanity of this World. God was pleased to visit him in his Youthful dayes, by the Reproofs of his Spirit, which I have often times heard him say, *It did strike a Damp upon him, and turned his Merryment into Sadness, and sometimes Mourning and Tears, and that brought him to a consideration of an Eternal Estate and the Account that must one day be given:* And thus the Lord Visited him, and made known his Power and eternal Light, by which the deeds of Darkness were made manifest and reprov'd; and in process of Time, the Lord, who had raised up Servants to go forth and preach the Gospel, by which he was convinced of the Truth, and everlasting Way of Gods Salvation, through the Light of Jesus, and he

he willingly imbraced it, and despised the Glory of this vain World, and so took up the Cross of Jesus, and by it was crucified unto the Pleasures and Vanities of this World, and became a Follower of Jesus through many Tryals and great Tribulations, in his Testimony for the Lord unto this Generation; and God was with him, and endued him with Meekness and Patience in his Bufftings, Tryals, Imprisonments and deep Sufferings for the Name of Jesus; He gave his Back to the Smiter, and his Cheek to him that would pull off the Hair; he did not start from his Testimony for the Lord; for the Lord was mightily with him. He was a noble Instrument in the hand of the Lord, and he gave him the Word of Eternal Life, to preach unto this Generation wherein my Lot is cast.

And through great Tribulations and deep Sorrows I mourned unto the Lord for the right knowledge of the Way of his Salvation: And when I was almost ready to faint, and to despair of ever attaining to such an Estate, but many times wishing, *Oh! that I were in some desert place, where I might sojourn out my Time, and Mourn out my Days in Sorrow!* For my Affliction was very great for want of the Knowledge of the Lord; and when my solitary Cryes were heard, then God was pleased to make use of him as an Instrument for my Convincement, and by the Word of God I was begotten unto a lively Hope in Christ Jesus. And I may bless the day that ever I saw him, and that the Lord made him such an Instrument, to preach the Gospel of glad Tidings, and to publish Peace

40 Samuel Waldenfeild's Testimony

in the Name of the Lord unto all that turn unto him, and obey his Spirit.

He was thoroughly furnished unto every good Work, and zealous for the Truth, and he loved Truth and Righteousness with all his Heart, and *That the Government thereof might be established in the Churches that were gathered into the Name of Jesus.* And it was his Joy to see both Men and Women serve the Lord and their Generation; and that there might be a *Care in both, to watch over the Heritage of God, for good every where;* and he was an Encourager of such daily; and his whole Work was to serve the Lord and his People; and his Estate and Life was given up to the Lord in his Testimony. He travelled much in this Nation, and visited some Countries beyond the Seas to preach the Gospel; and in all places where he travelled, he left a good Report and Savour behind him; for he was Meek and Low of Heart, and loved the Lord above all outward Enjoyments. Now he is crowned with Life and Immortality, and his Dwelling shall be with the Lord forever, where Tears shall cease, and Sorrows shall be no more.

Oh dear *Giles!* thou Servant of the living God, and Instrument in his hand! many have cause now to lament thy Departure! But surely the Lord is able to raise up Servants for the carrying on of his Work, in this the day of his mighty Power, in him we are comforted; for he is able, and is also raising up many, and sending of them forth to preach the Gospel, and to publish the Day of his Visitation

Visitation unto the Sons and Daughters of men, for their gathering unto Jesus, and for the redeeming them out of Captivity; and now a Remnant can say, *That the Lord is making their Feet beautiful, who bring glad Tidings and publish Peace* (unto all that return unto the Lord.) And thus the Lord is going on mightily, and prospering his own Work, and crowning his Servants with Eternal Life, into which now this our dear Friend is entered, which is his Gain, but our Loss, because O thou art removed from us! When we consider thy Departure, how can we but Mourn! for thou hast been a Comfort unto many through that Life and holy Power, which the Lord did furnish thee withal, and made thee Instrumental unto many, of whom I have cause to Lament thy Departure! for how great was my Love towards thee, because by thee, as an Instrument, I was turned unto the Lord, and the right Way of Salvation.

Did *David* Mourn at the Death of *Absalom*, and say, *Would God I had dyed for thee, O Absalom, my Son, my Son!* And may not I rather say, *O that I had dyed for thee, my Father, my Father?* for so thou wert as a Father in Christ unto me; I was begotten by the Word of God through thy Ministry, unto a living hope in Christ Jesus. And did not *Elisha* Mourn when *Elijah* was taken from him, and cry, and say, *My Father, my Father! the Chariot of Israel, and the Horse-men thereof?* and he saw him no more, and he rent his Clothes, for his Sorrow was great; even as mine hath been for thee, now thou art taken from me, O my Father,

42. Samuel Waldenfeild's *Testimony*, &c.

ther, my Father ! How can I but Mourn for thee ! But what shall I say ? for when I consider that the Lord hath taken thee away, and removed thee from the Evil that is to come, it makes me sometimes desire, O that I were with thee in our Fathers Kingdom of Eternal Glory, and that my Portion were as thine, in Rest with the Lord forever, where Sorrows cease, and Tears are no more ; then would our Joy be full in Eternal Happiness with the Lord God and the Lamb forever, and for evermore.

And now, all my dear Friends, Brethren and Sisters, who were so deeply affected with this faithful Servant and Messenger of the Lord, whom he raised up to publish his Day of Visitation, in whom we were comforted many times, and edified by the Word of God through him ; and now God hath been pleased to remove him from us, I say, let us celebrate his Memorial, in following his steps in Meekness and faithful Obedience unto the Lord, that so we may come to rest together in our Fathers Kingdom of Immortal Glory with him, and all the Faithful and Righteous that are gone before into Glory ; yea, that so when we have served our Generation in faithfulness unto the Lord, and have finished our Course here on the Stage of this World, wherein there is Trouble ; and when we have passed through so great Tribulations, Tryals and Exercises, Oh ! that then we might know our Peace to be with the Lord, and our Rest to be together in the Everlasting Kingdom

dom of God, and the Lamb forever, and for ever-
more; *Amen, Amen.*

Bishop-Sturford, the
19th of the 12th
Month, 1680. }

Samuel Waldenfeild.

Edward Melfupp's Testimony concern- ing Giles Barnardiston.

AS concerning my dear and well-beloved Friend, *Giles Barnardiston*, I have had knowledge of him, and have been well acquainted with him for several Years, and I can say he was of a meek and quiet Spirit, low and meek in Heart, willing to spend and be spent for the Service of God, and to lend a Hand to the weak Ones; his delight was to do the Work which the Lord had called him unto; he sought not the Honour of the World, but the Honour that is from above; it was his Meat and his Drink to do the Work of the Lord; his Life and Conversation was blameless amongst all sorts of People, Neighbours, Relations and Friends; he was called forth in the Work and Ministry of our Lord and Saviour Christ Jesus; he travelled many places in this Nation, and in *Holland*, declaring the Gospel of Christ Jesus with boldness and courage, feeling and witnessing God's Power and Presence to go along with him; so that I with many more can say, *That he was an Instrument in the Hand of the Lord,*

Lord, to turn many from Darkness to the Light, and from the Power of Satan to the Power of God; He was a tender nursing Father unto those that had good desires in them after the Lord and his blessed Truth, and for the arising of it more and more, such he took by the Hand, encouraging them to go on in the Work of the Lord, that so they might feel and know the Lord manifesting of his Love and Mercy unto their Souls, that a growth they might come to witness in the things of God; thus was his care over the Church of Christ, and a longing in him to the Lord for more Labourers to come in- to the Harvest; For the Harvest is great, and the Labourers few; and therefore he encouraged such as felt God's Power to arise in their Hearts, to keep in their measures in the Gift of God manifested unto them, and by being faithful thereunto, the Lord discovered more and more of his Mind and Will unto them; and herein is the true growth felt and witnessed, to the refreshing and comforting the Souls of the Upright, that the Work of God goes forward, and the Truth of God comes more and more to cover the Earth, as the Waters cover the Sea. And this my dear Friend, Giles Barnardiston, was a faithful Souldier for the Lord, counting nothing in the World too near and too dear for the Lord and his Truth; but was given up to do the Work which the Lord had made known unto him, faithfully, and with a ready Mind; he was very willing and diligent to carry and help on the Work of the Lord in Monthly Meetings (both Mens and Womens Meetings) Quarterly and Yearly Meetings;

Meetings; so that we may say, it is our Loss to part with such a good Friend, but it is his great Gain; for he has finished the Work that the Lord had for him to do: Upon his Head is a Crown of Glory forever; for it is unto those that hold out to the end, the end Crowns all; good is it for us all to know a going on to the end, then will the Crown be ours.

So, my dear Friends, Brethren and Sisters, press on forward in the Work of God, then shall we know our Bread to be sure, and our Water never to fail us, but the Lord to be as an overflowing Fountain unto our Souls, whereby our Souls will be refreshed and comforted in the enjoyment of the Lord, whom to know and witness is Life Eternal to the Soul.

So, my dear Friends, Brethren and Sisters, unto the Lord, and to the Word of his Grace, do I desire ye may be kept, and preserved in a fresh living sense and feeling of God's Love and Life from day to day, even to the end of dayes, that so you with me, and I with all the faithful Flock of God, may finish our Course with Joy, and lay down our Heads in Peace and Rest with the Lord forever, with the faithful Flock of God that hath gone before us; this is my Testimony.

From one who desireth to walk on in the Way that leads to the Kingdom.

Written, the 11th of }
the 12th Mon. 1680. }

Edward Mellsupp.

Jacob

Jacob Baker's Testimony concerning Giles Barnardiston.

MY Friend, my Friend ! my precious Friend !
I am engaged (according to my measure)
to speak of the Excellency of that Wisdom, with
which God Almighty had endued thee ; and this
as a Mite cast into the Treasury of my Friends ;
He was a man that my Soul loved, and greatly
delighted in ; and therefore, I cannot but utter
my Voice a little, to help to fill up that noble and
heavenly Volumn of Testimonies that are brought
forth this day concerning this my dear and precious
Friend : My dear One ! though thou be gone
into Everlasting Rest, yet thy Life remaineth with
me, and I cannot forget the blessed Union, hea-
venly Society and sweet Opportunities that I had
with thee, whilst thou wert yet living in the
Body : Oh ! my Heart is filled, but I cannot ex-
press, I want a Tongue and Pen to set forth the
excellency of that glorious Power, and innocent
heavenly Life that ruled in him ; He was a Friend
unto many, but a Father unto me, one that tra-
velled for me, and did often hand forth unto me a
part of that divine and heavenly Substance, which
God had endued him withal ; Oh ! the many sweet
Opportunities that we have had together ! and the
heavenly Expressions that dropped from his Lips
into my Bosom, can never be forgotten by me, so
long

long as I have a being here ! The joyful Sounds that were uttered through his earthen Vessel, did often ravish my Soul ; I have been well acquainted with the deep Travels and Exercises which he travelled through ; when Truth flourished, then he rejoiced ; when any thing appeared that might stop or hinder the Prosperity of the Truth, then he Mourned : His main concern was to seek Gods Glory, and the advancement of Truth upon Earth ; he was very little concerned in Earthly Business ; the care of the Churches was upon him ; and that things might be kept sweet and clean amongst us, he laboured night and day : The sweet Encouragements that he gave unto me, and many more, to go on in the Work and Service of the Lord, are not to be forgotten ; his words were often these, *Go on in the Name and Fear of the Lord ; heed not the Opposition of such as would be at Liberty, to all such things as tend not to the Glory of God ; but mind God's fear, and keep in that Spirit that judges down all Ungodliness, and every appearance of Evil ; so shall you prosper, and be as Instruments in the hand of the Lord, to beat down all Ungodliness.* And this was his Work whilst he was yet in the Body ; and the last time I saw his face, his Eyes were filled with Tears, and he was in a deep Travel and Exercise for one that was gone aside from the Truth ; my Tongue is too short to set forth the one half of the excellent heavenly Virtues, with which God had endued him ; he was a Companion for such as were truly Honest, though never so Poor, such his Delight was to travel with ; Wif-
dom

dom was a Portion given him of God, and he freely did expend it amongst his People; his Life, his Presence was sweet unto Thousands, and many are this day bewailing the loss of him; I could have been willing, if it had been the Will of the Lord, to have ended my dayes with him; but it hath pleased the Lord to take him from the Evil to come, and to leave me for a farther Tryal and Exercise; and therefore I cannot but cry unto the Lord, *That the same blessed Arm of Power, by which this my dear Friend was preserved, may be continued unto me; and that a double portion of his Spirit may rest upon his Off-spring, that what we have lost through his absence may be regained in his Children, which were begotten by him (through the glorious powerful Word) unto the Truth.* Oh! the sense of the want of thee hath often awaked me out of my sleep, and a Cry hath been begotten in me, *Arise, O God Eternal, and let the Light of thy glorious Gospel shine through his Children and Off-spring, that the Work in which he was engaged may be carried on, to the praise and glory of thy Glorious Name.* And now, O my dear one! thou hast gotten the start of me, thou art gotten to thy Journies end, and I am yet travelling; thou art gotten into the Bosom of Eternity; thy Soul is centered in its everlasting Being, where nothing can hinder thee from the full Enjoyment and Possession of the Presence of thy God; where I hope I shall one day be made one with thee; where all our Sorrows shall be at an end, and Sighing shall fly away, and Tears be wiped from our

Mournfull

Mournful Eyes, and we shall be crowned with
Everlasting Joy, and shall sing Hallelujah, Glory
and Honour unto the Living Eternal God, that sits
upon his Throne forever.

*My Loss is greater, than I well could bear,
When I dear Giles's suddain change did bear :
I then resolv'd, my Soul was fully bent,
To Mourn apart, till all my Tears were spent.
When I was Weeping, then came up a Cry,
That I in Heaven his Presence might enjoy.
He was a Preacher up of Purity ;
A fixed Object in my Heavenly Eye.
But, O ! methinks, I cannot but lament
The loss of him, who Strength & Substance spent,
That he might raise to God a Seed again,
To take Possession, and in man to reign.
Make up our Loss, Eternal God, I pray,
By raising Children up to him this day.
My Friends, my Friends, put up to God your Cryes,
That he may in his mighty Power arise :
O ! let his Off-spring in his Beauty shine,
Indue with Wisdom Heavenly and Divine ;
That so the Work, in which he did engage,
May thrive and Prosper in this latter Age.*

Jacob Baker.

*This short Testimony is in my Heart
to give concerning that worthy Ser-
vant of the Lord, Giles Bardnar-
diston.*

MAN in the beginning was created as a noble
Vine, wholly of a Right Seed, in which
state he was blessed of God, and bore his Image;
but he not standing in the Counsel of his Creator,
lost that Image of Holiness, and became a dege-
nerated Plant of a strange Vine, and bore then
the Image of the Earthly.

Now no sooner hath it pleased the Holy Wise
God, from one Age unto another, to visit Man
with a Visitation of his Love, to let him see this
his Miserable Fallen State, and also a possibility of
a recovery to Happiness again, but the Enemy
hath sought with all Subtilty to vail this Appear-
ance, endeavouring to keep man in the alienation
from the knowledge of the Lord, (whom to know
is Life Eternal) that he thereby might keep his
Government in the Heart: Yet the Lord, who
said, *I will Work, and who shall let it?* hath from
Age to Age had some, who according to that
measure of Light they had received, bore a Testi-
mony for the Lord, against the Wickedness of
the times in which they lived, and for the carry-
ing on of his Holy Design, which is, to establish
Truth

Truth and Righteousness in the Earth, which the mighty God is determined shall run down like a pleasant Stream: In order hereunto, the Holy Wise God, in this *our Age*, hath made know the Arm of his Salvation, and sent many forth (as with their Lives in their Hand) to publish this Glad Tidings in the Ears of the Inhabitants of the Earth, *That the Year of Jubile was come, and that Christ Jesus was taking of his right again to Reign, and to sway the Scepter of his Righteousness in the Hearts of his People.* (Surely this Day is never to be forgotten, saith my Soul) Amongst the many Worthies in *Israel*, whom the Lord raised up and sent forth with a Testimony for his Name and Truth, this my dear Friend *Giles Barnardiston* was one, whom the Lord made very Instrumental in his Hand for the good of many; whose labour in the Gospel, with the Apostles, was to turn People from Darkness unto Light, and from Satans Power unto God, that they might receive Forgiveness of Sins, and Inheritance amongst them which are saved, &c. His Ministry was very effectual for the gathering of many thereunto, not only in these parts, but in many more, who are at this day as living Epistles of his Apostleship, to the Praise and Honour of the pure holy God, who lives for evermore.

He was a man greatly indued with the Power of the Lord, and with a Heavenly Understanding, with whose Testimony my Soul has been greatly benefited, comforted and consoled; I can do no less then Magnifie the Lord in the sense thereof,

which indeed flowed through him, as a pleasant stream, which proceeded from the open Fountain of divine Life, which the Lord opened to him, whereby he would greatly incourage all to persevere on towards the Habitation of true Peace; warning them to take heed, they sate not down short of that Rest which God had prepared. I cannot forget him, sometimes I having been with him in his Travels, how he would often remind such who were convinced of God's blessed Truth, not to forget the Day of their Visitation, their first Love and Tenderness towards the Lord, and where they were when he first made known himself unto them, and whither he had now brought them by the Arm of his blessed Power. And to such who had made some Progress in the Way of Truth, and for want of faithfulness to the Lord had let something of deadness come over them again, would say, *Friends, do but remember the days that are past, when you were first convinced of Gods blessed Truth; Oh! what tender-ness of Heart, and brokenness of Spirit was there then towards the Lord! and what a Love was begotten and raised up one towards another! Whether would we have gone, a little to have been together, to have spoken something of our Experience of the goodness of the Lord unto us? Oh! how glad were we but to see the face of one whom the Lord sent forth to publish the Gospel of Glad Tidings in our Ears! come, do but remember; Oh! how come you to forget these dayes; make now a narrow search and see what's the matter that ye are not so living to*

God as formerly you have been; and take heed lest the Incumberments or the Delights of a fading perishing World steal not your Affections away from more durable Riches. Thus in much fervency of Spirit and great Tenderneſs, he would exhort all to preſs towards Holineſs, without which no man can ever ſee the Lord.

Courteous Reader; This worthy Servant of the Lord did not only in his publick Exerciſe in Preaching the Goſpel, adorn the Truth of our Lord and Saviour Jeſus Chriſt (which he profeſſed) but alſo in his ſollid Behaviour, both in Words and Actions; his Countenance was grave and weighty, his Carriage was comely in *Iſrael*; he was ever ready to hand forth a helping hand unto the weak, greatly delighting to behold the Proſperity of Truth, and Brethren walking in the Unity.

Oh dear *Giles*! in the conſideration of our Loſs, conſidering thy Service, and the Work of thy day, my Soul Mourneth, yet not without hope, believing 'tis the Will of the Lord that is done concerning thee; and though thy Body is taken from us, and laid in the Duſt, yet the Grave cannot reach thy Life; but having fought the good Fight, and finiſhed thy Courſe in Faith, haſt obtained a Crown of Immortallity and Eternal Life, which the Wicked by all their Contrivances can never deprive thee of, nor the Frowns of Mortals diſmay thee.

And now, O thou Heart-ſearching God, who knowſt the Intents of every mind, forever preſerve my feet, (with all thy choſen Ones) to walk in

the footsteps of the Flock, of these thy Companions, is the Supplication daily of my Soul unto thee, that I may bring Honour and Praise to thy great Name, who art God over all, blessed forever, World without end; *Amen.*

Normich, the 21th of }
the 12th Mon. 1680. }

Benjamin Bangs.

William Welch (of Suffolk) his Testimony concerning G. Barnardiston.

CONCERNING our dear Friend *Giles Barnardiston*, I have this to say; he was a man of a very meek Spirit; and since he turned his back upon the Glory of this World, he laboured much to promote the Honour of Truth, and the Glory of the Lord; for though he was weak in Body, and decay'd much in his outward Strength, being visited often with Sicknes, yet in these Parts his Travel was very great, and he was made Instrumental both by Doctrin and Practice, for the helping forward of many in the Work of the Lord; for he was a true Comforter of the feeble-minded, and ready to put forth his hand to help the Weak; his Patience was well approved when it was tryed; he sought not to make his own Name great, or to take Honour to himself, but would prefer others before himself in the Service of the Lord, though they were in many degrees behind him; for the Lord had bestowed large Gifts upon him, as to
the

the managing of that Work which he had called him to: And although his Education and bringing up was some-what High, yet for the Truth's sake, he became very low in Spirit, and was made willing to serve the very meanest of the Flock of God, and his heart and hand was open to serve the Truth; for he was not wanting upon all occasions, to do good where he saw need; these Marks and Tokens were of a true self-denying man; of these things I was both an Eye and an Ear Witness, with many more, having been often in his Company, and sometimes travelling with him, which doth stir me up to give forth a brief Testimony of the Goodness of the Lord, which appeared in him, and of the Fruit of this blessed Tree; for the Lord knows, this is not given forth for his sake alone (though his Memorial deserves a perpetual Record, and I know he has and will have a Memorial in the Hearts of many of the faithful, as long as they have a day to live) but it is given forth for the sake of others, who meeting with the Memorable Records of this blessed and good Man, and of his Fruits of Righteousness, may not only now, but in Generations to come, be provoked to follow his good Example.

Given forth by one who desires the good and benefit of all;

Stoak by Nayland in Suffolk, the 1st Moneth, 1680. }

William Welch.

Elizabeth Gibson *her Testimony concerning* Giles Barnardiston.

THis I have to say in the feeling of Gods Love, as to our dear Friend *Giles Barnardiston*, deceased; as in the sence of his Life he was dear to me, and honourable, and my Heart rejoyced in his Life, I am refreshed, and my Life comforted, although he is gone, and I remain; this is with me, as the daily Preparation in fear towards God, that I may be ready to meet the Lord, in following the footsteps of the Faithful, who are gone before me, that we may go to them, seeing they must not come again to us. This is my Travel, that in all things I may be found faithful, being sensible therein is Peace, and abundance of pure Comfort, which makes us to rejoyce in the true sence and feeling of it, my Heart is often filled, and surely my Soul doth praise the Lord over all, waiting yet more and more for the Consolation of his pure Life, which is more precious than all things here below to feel and know, as this my dear Friend manifested in his Life; he truly travelled for the Prosperity of the Lords People; I am satisfied he is gone to his Everlasting Rest; as he witnessed being gathered from all his own Words and Works; such have the promise of entring into Rest; we can set to our Seals, that he was a man bought with a price, beyond Silver or Gold, and valued

Elizabeth Gibson *her Testimony, &c.* 57

valued that above both, and was a man freely given up in Body, Life and Estate to serve the Lord, his Truth and People; and he felt his Reward, as a Remnant do, which was his delight, and that which answers all our Travels, who abide faithful, the Lord is our Portion, and the Lot of our Inheritance; Oh! Magnified be his Name forever.

Edmunds Bury, the 5th } Elizabeth Gibson.
of the 11th Mon. 1680. }

And since the writing of this my true and faithful Testimony, it is thus in me; Oh! our loss is great! What may I say, as touching such serviceable men, which of late the Lord hath removed from us, as this dear and Nursing Father in *Israel*, and many more of the faithful and chosen Ones, (who were truly serviceable in their day) as our dear Friends, *John Jennix*, *Robert Duncon*, *Samuel Duncon junior*, *John Bennitt*, and others; Oh! when in the serious weight thereof, my Spirit is broken, and my Heart is truly melted, to consider such men to be taken from us; Oh! it is thus with me, *It is the Lord's doings, who is God; and who may say, what dost thou?* and that we his *Israel*, who are yet behind may come up more and more, according to his Dispensation, to follow the Lamb in his War against our spiritual Adversary in our day; Oh! the great Enemy of Souls, the great *Goliath*, the Lord make us valiant against him, that we may never fall before him, but that in the strength of the great *Jehovah* we may know Victory and Dominion

nion over the Evil One, though he exalteth, or exalt himself never so much against us, the chosen of the Lord; Oh! these are my heavenly Breathings unto our God, who am engaged unto him in the spiritual Travel, that I may be approved unto him, who hath called me to serve him, and to bear a Testimony unto him, in a living knowledge of him, even the Lord our Righteousness, therein to rejoyce in him, and to Praise him over all, who in my Soul is God over all blessed forever and for evermore.

This could I not clearly omit, but add these words, beseeching the Lord to preserve us his People, whom he hath caused to bear his Name, and have been in Scorn call'd Quakers.

Elizabeth Gibson.

Hester Melsupp *her Testimony concerning* Giles Barnardiston.

DEAR Friends, Brethren and Sisters, to whose view this may come, it is written, *The Memorial of the Just shall live*; and this doth live upon my Spirit concerning our dear Friend *Giles Barnardiston*, whom God had endued with Wisdom from on high, and in answer thereunto, it was as his Meat and Drink to do his Will, who had called

called him by his Grace, and made him as a Pillar in his House, and he did never more go forth; he was as a fixed Star in the Firmament of God's Power, and in that Power was he a blessed Instrument in his Hand, for the *building of Sion*, and for the *repairing of Breaches*; he was well known to be of an **Humble, Meek and Quiet Spirit**; and as much as in him lay, he sought Unity amongst Brethren; this was his Care and Labour of Love; his Heart was wholly set to do Gods Will, and *rather chose to suffer Affliction with the People of God, than to enjoy the Pleasures of Sin which are but for a Season*. And thus hath he fought the good Fight of Faith, and finished his Course, and a Crown of Life doth stand upon his Head, and he resteth from his Labours, and his Works follow him; and although now his Body belaid in the Dust, yet his Upright Life shall never dye, nor the Memorial thereof, which is cause of Joy to the Upright in Heart: And as I have been one who hath been made sensible of his spiritual Travels, I can do no less but bring in my short Testimony concerning his Innocent Holy Life, and Happy End. So desiring that this may be as an engagement upon us, who yet have a time, even on this side the Grave, to walk in his steps, that so in the end, we may with him know a laying down our Heads in Peace.

*This is the desire of her, who seeks the Prosperity of
Zion's Children.*

Hester Mellsupp.

Mary

Mary Gridle *her Testimony concerning* Giles Barnardiston.

A Living Testimony springs in my Heart to bear in the behalf of my dear Friend *Giles Barnardiston*, deceased, who was dear to me in the Lord, but now the Lord hath taken him to himself in Rest and Peace, and Joy that is everlasting; for he was a faithful Servant of the Lord, whom he assisted with a measure of his blessed Power and Spirit, in the which he was given up to serve the Lord, and so became in Christ Jesus *a tender Father in Israel*; he laboured much in the Work of the Lord, to the gathering of many Souls near to him; and then like a tender Father towards them whom he had gained in the Lord, oh! how did he nurse and tender them, and held forth his hand to help in a needful time; he was ready to comfort the bowed down in Spirit, and on the other hand to set Judgment upon the Lusty and Proud Spirits, to bring them down; for God had given him a Spirit of discerning, and also made him a valiant Souldier in the Lambs War, against all Opposition and Gainlayers, that he met withal against the Truth; and many were his Exercises, but the Lord delivered him out of them all: Oh! the sweet and blessed heavenly Life that he lived in, is fresh in my Remembrance: Oh! he was a tender Father in Christ to me, and a
comfort

Mary Gridle her Testimony, &c. 61

comfort to me and many more in our spiritual Journey; and I can truly say, my Soul hath been refreshed many a time, in the feeling of that blessed heavenly Life which he lived in: He was a blessed Instrument in the hand of the Lord, fitted for his Service to declare of his blessed Day, which is now broken forth, and will break forth and spread more and more; for the Son of Righteousness is arisen, which shall never go down again, though Clouds may seem to appear for a time, yet the Sun will break forth and shine in its Glory, and many shall walk in the Light thereof: Oh! the Lord hath taken him away, and I may not gainsay his doings; for I am satisfied, that it is his Gain, although it appear mine and others Loss for a time; so I am made to be contented: and now the desire of my Heart is unto the Lord, that I may be preserved to the end of my dayes, to finish my Testimony in faithfulness, that I may lay down my Head in Peace with the Lord, when time to me here shall be no more, as this my dear Friend hath done, to the Praise of God, who is blessed forever, and for evermore; *Amen*, faith my Soul.

Mary Gridle.

George

George VVhitehead

HIS

TESTIMONY

Concerning that Faithful Man of God,
and Servant of Christ,

Giles Barnardiston,

*Magnifying the Grace of God, and Life of
Christ Jesus in him, his Example and
Ministry, &c.*

Worthy is the Memorial of the
Righteous to be recorded to Po-
sterity, and the Upright to be had in Ever-
lasting Remembrance; such ought to be
regarded in their Day for their Virtue and
Brightness, and are worthy to be com-
memorated when they are gone (even as
the Lord opens thereunto) as Ensamples
and Monuments of God's great Kindness
to the residue of men, that they may be
stirred up to seek him, and follow their
footsteps, who have walked in the Way
of

of Life and Salvation, and have attained unto the end of the Perfect Man, and Upright, which is Peace; My intent herein is to magnifie the Grace of God, and to speak of the Creature no otherwise than as his Workmanship in Christ Jesus.

The Record that I have to give of this Upright and Sincere-hearted man, is, that all *Words* and *Expressions* that we can utter on his behalf, come short of the Virtue and Excellency that was in him, where-with he was divinely indued: *where is his Peer, or Equal in all Christian respects, in his Native Country, or parts adjacent!* though I doubt not but God can raise up more sincere and faithful Witnesses in his Room.) My Soul is overcome in the deep sense of his Integrity, and remembrance of the sweet Society we have often had together, since the Lord brought him to a living sense of his Goodness. He was a man that feared God, and eschewed evil; he hated every Evil Way; he sincerely loved God's faithful Servants and Messengers; he had the true Qualifications of an *Elder* and *Overseer* in Christ's Church, being blameless in his Conversion, a Lover of good Men, Sober, Just, Holy,

Holy, Temperate, and he truly desired the Prosperity of God's whole Heritage, Church and People, in true Love, Peace and Concord; His Heart was set aright, and his Spirit was stedfast with God; He was of the same Mind and Spirit of his Servant *David*, when he thus prayed to the Lord: *Remember me, O* Psal. 106. *Lord, with the favour that thou* 4. 5. *bearest unto thy People; O visit me with thy Salvation, that I may see the goodness of thy Chosen, that I may rejoyce in the Gladness of thy Nation, that I may Glory with thine Inheritance.* And accordingly he believed and lived to see the Goodness of the Lord in the Land of the Living, in a large measure; My Soul was deeply affected with his Innocent Life, Sincere and tender Spirit to God; and with his Inoffensive and humble Example among his People; he was a faithful Example of the Believers, in Word, in Conversation in Charity, in Spirit, in Faith, in Purity in Gravity, Sincerity, and Sound Speech that could not be condemned, having clear Evangelical Testimony, which not but good men are meet to partake of, and that through the Experience of the Power

and Work of Christ Jesus in them, besides the certain knowledge and living Sense I had of his Integrity, and sincere Love to the Lord, and to his People. I cannot forget a Vision I once had of this Upright Soul, and good Man, about two or three Years ago; *I beheld him in a very sweet and tender Frame of Spirit, with Tears in his Eyes, yet in great Joy and Comfort, in a deep sense of the Love of God, and therein he appeared unto me, as speaking on this wise, (viz.) I feel Life, I feel Life, which truly satisfies, &c.* which had this deep Impression and sweet Resentment upon my Spirit, That he valued the Sense of that Divine Life, which he received in Christ Jesus, above all things besides, as counting all other Knowledge loss for the Excellency of the Knowledge of Christ Jesus, our Lord, upon which my very Heart and Soul was deeply affected with the unutterable Sense and Enjoyment that he had of the goodness of God, and Life of Christ Jesus, which I perceived in him beyond what he could express, or utter in Words; for I do truly know his Eye was to that Life above all, and he truly sought and loved Unity and Peace, therein

66 *George Whitehead's Testimony*

among God's People, and rejoyced where he felt true and living Unity, and beheld *Good Order and Steadfastness of Faith in Christ, and Love among them*, that Friends therein might be a strength and comfort one to another in the Lord.

He is taken away from the Evil to come; he is entred into his Rest and Peace; his Reward of Glory and Triumph is with him; his Portion is with the Spirits of Just Men; as he loved the Appearance and Life of our Lord Jesus Christ, a Crown of Righteousness, Life and Glory (which was laid up for him) was his Portion. Oh! let his innocent faithful Example and Testimony be remembred, and have a living Impression upon all his Friends, Relations, Neighbours, Acquaintance, and all People who knew him, to engage them the more to walk thereafter, and to follow the Footsteps of the Lords Flock in Truth and Righteousness with him, even in the Way and Teachings of the Grace and Counsel of God, to the end that they may be received into Glory hereafter.

Now these things are written to pay some Tender and Christian Respects, and

not as designing to introduce any customary way of Testimonies for the Dead, but as chiefly respecting the Grace of God, and his divine Virtues and Endowments, wherewith he peculiarly invests such as are eminently concerned in his Service, who are no otherwise to be testified unto in this manner, but as his Divine Power shall move and necessitate any thereunto, who are in some measure made Partakers of the same Spirit, Virtue and Power, and their Conversations agreeable thereunto.

THE END